

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 1084

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS COLEMAN AND BRAY.

Read 1st time February 5, 2008, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

4947S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 163.161, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to state aid for transportation of pupils.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 163.161, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 163.161, to read as follows:

163.161. 1. Any school district which makes provision for transporting
2 pupils as provided in section 162.621, RSMo, and sections 167.231 and 167.241,
3 RSMo, shall receive state aid for the ensuing year for such transportation on the
4 basis of the cost of pupil transportation services provided the current year. A
5 district shall receive, pursuant to section 163.031, an amount not greater than
6 seventy-five percent of the allowable costs of providing pupil transportation
7 services to and from school and to and from public accredited vocational courses,
8 and shall not receive an amount per pupil greater than one hundred twenty-five
9 percent of the state average approved cost per pupil transported the second
10 preceding school year, except when the state board of education determines that
11 sufficient circumstances exist to authorize amounts in excess of the one hundred
12 twenty-five percent of the state average approved cost per pupil transported the
13 second previous year.

14 2. The state board of education shall determine public school district route
15 approval procedures to be used by each public school district board of education
16 to approve all bus routes or portions of routes and determine the total miles each
17 public school district needs for safe and cost-efficient transportation of the pupils
18 and the state board of education shall determine allowable costs. No state aid
19 shall be paid for the costs of transporting pupils living less than one mile from
20 the school. However, if the state board of education determines that

21 circumstances exist where no appreciable additional expenses are incurred in
22 transporting pupils living less than one mile from school, such pupils may be
23 transported without increasing or diminishing the district's entitlement to state
24 aid for transportation.

25 3. State aid for transporting handicapped and severely handicapped
26 students attending classes within the school district or in a nearby district under
27 a contractual arrangement shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of
28 section 163.031 and an amount equal to seventy-five percent of the additional cost
29 of transporting handicapped and severely handicapped students above the
30 average per pupil cost of transporting all students of the district shall be
31 apportioned pursuant to section 163.031 where such special transportation is
32 approved in advance by the department of elementary and secondary
33 education. State aid for transportation of handicapped and severely handicapped
34 children in a special school district shall be seventy-five percent of allowable costs
35 as determined by the state board of education which may for sufficient reason
36 authorize amounts in excess of one hundred twenty-five percent of the state
37 average approved cost per pupil transported the second previous year. In no
38 event shall state transportation aid exceed seventy-five percent of the total
39 allowable cost of transporting all pupils eligible to be transported; provided that
40 no district shall receive reduced reimbursement for costs of transportation of
41 handicapped and severely handicapped children based upon inefficiency.

42 4. No state transportation aid received pursuant to section 163.031 shall
43 be used to purchase any school bus manufactured prior to April 1, 1977, that does
44 not meet the federal motor vehicle safety standards.

45 **5. Any school district that operates magnet schools as part of a**
46 **master desegregation settlement agreement shall not be considered**
47 **inefficient for purposes of state aid for transportation of pupils**
48 **attending such magnet schools and shall not receive a financial penalty**
49 **as a result thereof.**

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